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PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Moss, et al.

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Entitled: Automated Trading System

Group: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 5538/1020

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Preliminary Amendment

In the Specification

Please insert, at page 1, underneath the title, "Automated Trading System" the words, --

Field of the Invention--.

Please insert at page 1, line 6, the words, --**Background of the Invention--**.

Please insert at page 3, line 8, the words, --**Summary of the Invention--**.

Please insert at page 5, line 19, the words, --**Brief Description of the Drawings--**.

Please insert at page 6, line 7, the words, --**Detailed Description--**.

On page 8, line 25, please insert the word --quote--before the word, "window 16".

On page 9, line 8, please delete the words, "entry 18-8 left hand side" and insert therefore, the words, --the left hand side of entry 18-8--.

At the last page of the specification, please insert the following:

--AUTOMATED TRADING SYSTEM

Abstract

A computerised trading system for the trading of financial instruments or commodities which enables anonymous presentation of quotes on a workstation while still allowing the workstation to filter available quotes for display, on the basis of the nature of the originating party. A central server or network connects a plurality of workstations, each associated with a respective trading floor or institution. For each trading floor or institution, generalized institution status indicators are used to provide display filtration criteria, each indicator indicating a non-specific attribute of the respective institution.--

In the Claims

Please **cancel** claims 19 and 20.

Please **amend** claims 1-3, 7,-9, 11, 14, 15-18.

Please **add** claims 21 and 22.

1. (Amended) A computerised trading system for the trading of financial instruments or commodities comprising:
 - a central server [or network] for connecting a plurality of workstations, each workstation associated with [a respective trading floor or] an institution;
 - a means for storing a plurality of generalized institution status indicators [in respect of each trading floor or institution], each indicator indicating a non-specific attribute of the respective institution without identifying the institution itself;

a plurality of trader workstations each connected to the central server [or network] and associated with a respective institution, each workstation including
a means for displaying current quotations in the market place
indicating a willingness to accept a bid or offer;
a database maintaining a list of current quotations active on the trading system; and
a filtration means for applying selected filtration criteria to inhibit display of current market quotations at a given workstation, based on the value of one or more of said generalized institution status indicators.

2. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to claim 1, further including a plurality of intermediate servers, each intermediate server associated with at least one of said respective institutions[,] and for connecting said workstations to the central server [or network].
3. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to claim 1 or 2 in which the filtration means includes a storage means storing a counterparty definition file indicating values of said generalized institution status indicators which match trading counterparties not acceptable to the institution associated with [of] a given workstation.
7. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to [any preceding claim] claim 1, in which the generalized institution status indicators include one or more of: an indication of geographical origin of the counterparty[;], an indication of the level of the counterparty within an organisational hierarchy[;], an indication of the legal status of a counterparty[;], an indication of the political status of the counterparty[;], and an indication of an independent credit rating of the counterparty.

8. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to [any one of claims 3 to 7 when dependent from] claim 2 in which the database maintaining [a] the list of current quotations active on the trading system is provided at every intermediate server.
9. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to [any preceding] claim 1 in which each market quotation transmitted over the trading system includes a means for [determining said plurality of generalized institution status indicators in respect of the institution originating the quotation] identifying a plurality of generalized institution status indicators which correspond to the institution originating the quotation.
11. (Amended) A computerised trading system according to claim 9 in which each quotation transmitted to [a] the central server includes an originating party identification, said originating party identification being removed and replaced by generalized institution status indicators prior to receipt by a workstation.
14. (Amended) A computerised trading system for the trading of financial instruments or commodities comprising:
a central server for connecting a plurality of workstations;
a plurality of trader workstations each connected to the central server, each workstation including
a means for generating quotations for transmittal to other workstations via said central server,
a means for displaying current quotations in the market place including bids and offers, and
a means for generating response messages to originating workstations indicating acceptance of a quotation;

a database maintaining a list of current quotations active on the trading system, each quotation having associated therewith an ownership identification field indicating the identity of the originator of the active quotation, and a current keeper identification field indicating the identity of the workstation to which a quote acceptance message should be directed; and

a means for modifying the current keeper identification field [independent] independently of the ownership identification field.

15. (Amended) A method of operating an automated trading system for the trading of financial instruments or commodities comprising the steps of:

connecting a plurality of workstations over a network, each workstation being associated with [a respective trading floor or] an institution[,] and communicating with a means for storing a plurality of generalized institution status indicators, each indicator indicating a non-specific attribute of the respective institution without identifying the institution itself;

transmitting transaction data comprising quotations between said plurality of [trader] workstations over said network;

maintaining a database comprising a list of current quotations active on the trading system;

displaying on at least one selected workstation, current quotations in the market place including bids and offers;

providing a filtration means for applying selected filtration criteria to inhibit display of current market quotations at a given workstation, based on the value of one or more of said generalized institution status indicators; and

applying said selected filtration criteria, [to inhibit display of current market quotations at said selected workstation, based on the value of one or more of said

generalized status indicators] thereby inhibiting said display.

16. (Amended) A computer program product, comprising a computer readable medium having thereon computer program code means adapted, when said program is loaded onto a computer network, to make the computer network execute the [procedure] method of claim 15.
17. (Amended) A method of operating an automated trading system for the trading of financial instruments or commodities comprising the steps of:
 - connecting a plurality of workstations via a central server;
 - generating quotations by at least one [selected] originating workstation, for transmittal to other workstations via said central server;
 - displaying at said plurality of workstations, current quotations in the market place including bids and offers;
 - generating response messages to said at least one originating workstations indicating willingness to accept a quotation;
 - maintaining a database comprising a list of current quotations active on the trading system, each quotation having associated therewith an ownership identification field indicating the identity of the originator of the active quotation, and a current keeper identification field indicating the identity of the workstation to which an quote acceptance message should be directed; and
 - modifying the current keeper identification field [independent] independently of the ownership identification field while the respective quotation is still current.
18. (Amended) A computer program product, comprising a computer readable medium having thereon a computer program code means adapted, when said program is loaded onto a computer network, to make the computer network execute the [procedure] method

of claim 17.

21. (New) The computerised trading system according to claim 1, wherein the institution is a trading floor.
22. (New) The method according to claim 15, wherein the institution is a trading floor.

Remarks

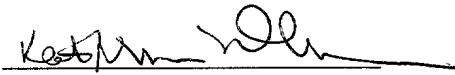
Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-18, and 21-22 are presented for examination. The amendments present no new matter. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, and at least in the claims as originally filed, and at page 11, lines 13-16 of the specification.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are allowable as written and respectfully request early favorable action by the Examiner. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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